

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 7012

BILL NUMBER: SB 445

NOTE PREPARED: Dec 29, 2003

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Child Sexual Abuse.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Sipes

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: This bill eliminates the statute of limitations for a civil action involving the sexual abuse of a child.

Effective Date: July 1, 2004.

Explanation of State Expenditures:

Explanation of State Revenues: This bill allows a victim of a sex crime, who was less than 18 years of age at the time of the offense, to commence civil action at any time against an individual who (1) was convicted of a sex crime perpetrated against the victim, or (2) knowingly or intentionally, aided, induced, or caused another person, who was convicted, to commit such a crime against the victim.

Court Fee Revenue: If additional civil actions occur, revenue to the state General Fund may increase if court fees are collected. A civil filing fee of \$100 would be assessed when a civil case is filed. 70% of the filing fee would be deposited in the state General Fund if the case is filed in a court of record or 55% if the case is filed in a city or town court.

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues: *Court Fee Revenue:* If additional civil actions occur, local governments would receive revenue from the following sources. The county general fund would receive 27% of the \$100 filing fee that is assessed in a court of record. Cities and towns maintaining a law enforcement agency that prosecutes at least 50% of its ordinance violations in a court of record may receive 3% of court fees. If the

case is filed in a city or town court, 20% of the court fee would be deposited in the county general fund and 25% would be deposited in the city or town general fund.

State Agencies Affected:

Local Agencies Affected: Trial courts, city and town courts.

Information Sources:

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